

CIVILIANS RUN SHARPE'S OFFICE

Quartermaster-General Testifies to Transfer of Power to Defense Council

STORY OF RED TAPE IMPRESSES SENATORS

Witness Defends the Institution of Advisory Commission and Its Committees

Washington, D. C., Dec. 22.—That the buying of his department had been put into the hands of civilians and that methods in vogue are highly involved, were among the points gathered from the testimony of Quartermaster General Sharpe yesterday before the Senate military affairs committee. General Sharpe said the army is still short 100,000 woolen overcoats, and admitted that many of the coats sent to camp would not fit the men. Shoes had been found to be too short, and at Camp Custer a detail of men had to wait for another detail to return before they could get shoes to wear to target practice.

FARMERS' LOAN AGGREGATES \$29,000,000

Federal Land Banks Will Lend \$75,000,000 More on Approved Applications.

Washington, Dec. 22.—Loans aggregating \$29,000,000, have been made to farmers by the 12 federal land banks in the six months since the farm loan system has been in full operation, according to the monthly report of the federal farm loan board, issued yesterday. In addition, \$75,000,000 of loans have been approved and will be negotiated at the old five per cent interest rate when funds are made available through sale of farm loan bonds privately, or to the United States treasury under the pending plan to have Congress appropriate \$100,000,000 a year for the purchase.

Applications for loans have amounted to \$219,000,000, which has been cut to \$180,000,000 by reductions ordered by appraisers, or by rejection. A total of 1830 co-operative farm loan associations, composed of 19 or more farmer borrowers, have been chartered. Future loans will be made at the new interest rate of 5½ per cent.

MUST HAVE NEW CONSTITUTION.

China Must Also Have New Law and Parliament Must Be Organized.

Peking, Dec. 22.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press).—The Chinese republic must have a new constitution, a new election law and Parliament must be re-organized, in the opinion of President Feng Kuo-chang, and Premier Tuan Chi-jui.

An effort to achieve these objects is in progress in the sessions of the new national council, called by the president and the premier for that purpose.

Most of China's government difficulties during the last six years were attributed by Premier Tuan in an address to the national council to imperfections in the constitution. It is the desire of the president and the premier that a new constitution shall be adopted and that it shall contain provisions for satisfactory coordination of the executive, legislative and judicial branches of the government. Both officials pointed out in addresses to the council that it was the absence of such provisions in the present constitution that led to the outbreak of numerous disorders and revolts which have transpired in this country since the beginning of the attempt to organize a republic form of government.

The president and the premier apparently have divergent views as to whether the new constitution should be promulgated by the national council or by a new Parliament to be summoned after the work of the council is finished. President Feng told the council that he sincerely hoped that after it had revised the Chinese election laws, Parliament would be called to draft and promulgate the constitution; but Premier Tuan urged the council itself to amend the fundamental law of the Chinese state.

"Unless we have a strong and sound government, we never will be able to survive the struggle of the nations," declared the president. "To form a nation and to establish it on a firm basis is a colossal task. Six years is too short a time to prove whether government by the people is suitable for China. Therefore, I entertain great expectations for the success of your task."

CORN PRICES WEAKEN.

Reaction Shown from Thursday's Bulge at Chicago.

Chicago, Dec. 22.—Corn Friday showed a tendency to react from the bulge of the day before. Opening prices, which ranged from the same as Thursday's finish to 7½c lower, with January \$1.24½, to \$1.25 and May \$1.23 to \$1.23½, were followed by a moderate decline all around.

FINE FOR RHEUMATISM!

Musterole Loosens Up Those Stiff Joints—Drives Out Pain

You'll know why thousands use Musterole once you experience the glad relief it gives.

Get a jar at once from the nearest drug store. It is a clean, white ointment, made with the oil of mustard. Better than a mustard plaster and does not blister. Brings ease and comfort while it is being rubbed on!

Musterole is recommended by many doctors and nurses. Millions of jars are used annually for bronchitis, croup, stiff neck, asthma, neuralgia, pleurisy, rheumatism, lumbago, pains and aches of the back or joints, sprains, sore muscles, bruises, chilblains, frost-bite, colds of the chest (it often prevents pneumonia). 30c and 60c jars; hospital size \$2.50



THE "BLOOD AND IRON" POLICY

is important in peace as well as in war. Every man and woman who would be a winner and not a slacker should have the strength of iron in the blood.

The new iron tonic, Peptiron, combines this valuable metal in medicinal form so that it is easily digested and readily assimilated. Peptiron also includes pepsin, nux, celery, gentian and other tonics—sedatives for the nerves, digestives and carminatives—a health-giving medicine in convenient pill form.

Take it for anemia or thin blood, paleness, nerve debility, brain-fag. One or two Peptiron after each meal will quickly tell a story of marvelous results. Get it to-day.—Adv.

CALEDONIA COUNTY LEADS ON RED CROSS

Has Already Exceeded Quota of New Members and Windsor and Grand Isle Counties Go "Over the Top," Too.

Burlington, Dec. 22.—The membership campaign for the Red Cross will be continued in Vermont up to Christmas eve. This leaves two more days in which to put in renewed effort for the 25,000 new members.

"Will the goal be reached?" is the query being asked by county managers, solicitors and all interested in seeing Vermont go "over the top" with the required number.

State Manager Darling says Vermont will not disappoint, that the communities that fail to reach their quotas will be more than made good by the communities that secure a greater number of memberships than were allotted to them.

Every reason is apparent for stating that Caledonia county will be the banner county of the state. The quota there was 1,469, but up to Thursday night the returns showed 1,865 and Gilbert M. Campbell of Lyndonville, who is conducting the campaign in that county, said that it was hoped the number would reach 3,500.

Another county manager, James F. Dewey of Quebec, who is in charge of Windsor county, is deserving of the highest praise for what has been accomplished there. The quota was 1,364. Thursday night's returns showed 1,400 and Mr. Dewey said there would be no letting up of work, that the campaign would be continued up to the very close.

Little Grand Isle county has been doing excellent work. By 350 new members the quota has been exceeded.

In Washington, Rutland and Franklin counties the situation showed improvement to-day. Canvassers buckled to their work early and new members were secured with less explanation than on former days.

One of the features of the day in Burlington was the getting of 100 members from among the employees of the Queen City Cotton company. This boosts the new members in Burlington to in excess of 1,200.

"The business of the country is war," is the slogan put out by Chairman Darling. The country is fast realizing that this is correct. Prompt action in everything pertaining to the war is necessary. Chairman Darling would like to see 25,000 new Red Cross members by Saturday night. This would leave Sunday and Monday in which to add to the prescribed quota.

With 25,000 new Red Cross members in Vermont all can with heart wish the soldier boys of the Green Mountain state a joyous Christmas.

DRAFT MEN CAN TILL JOIN.

Those Qualified for Aviation Service Have Chance for Immediate Service.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 22.—Men of draft age qualified for present needs of the aviation section of the signal corps can seek immediate service despite the recent ruling discontinuing voluntary enlistment of the draft men. It is announced that flyers and balloonists may enlist as heretofore upon passing the examination at the nearest aviation examination board, which will conduct whatever negotiations are necessary with the exemption boards of the districts from which the volunteers are accepted.

No aerial observers are now being accepted, the statement said, nor are non-commissioned officers, except a limited number of graduates of recognized engineering colleges or others who can qualify as expert engineers. Men seeking enlistment in the aviation section, enlisted personnel, may volunteer only through their local boards.

SAYS U. S. SOLDIERS HAVE FOOD ENOUGH

Council of National Defense Asks That None Be Sent Them by Their Families and Friends.

Washington, Dec. 22.—The council of national defense yesterday requested friends and families of soldiers not to send them food. An abundant supply is being furnished in the camps and cantonments, the council said, and a large quantity of privately sent food is being wasted. In some cases food has been spoiled, and it is feared it may endanger the health of the men.

TWO WERE SLAIN.

Dead Woman and Dying Man Found in House at Southbridge, Mass.

Southbridge, Mass., Dec. 21.—Mrs. Ida Frost, aged 35, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Otis L. Willis of Fiskeville, was found murdered in the home of Jesse Leno, on the Leadmill road, between Sturbridge and Holland, early last evening. Lying on the floor near her was the unconscious form of John Wood, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Wood of Fiskeville.

The woman had been shot through the head and had been dead for some time. Her companion, also shot in the head, lived but a short time.

There is a question whether the woman was shot by Wood, or whether both were the victims of someone else. She had not lived with her husband for some time.

MAN COMING HOME.

Head of the Rainbows Physically Unable to Stand Field Duty.

Washington, Dec. 22.—Major-General William A. Blinn, who commanded the celebrated Rainbow division, which took National Guardmen from many states in the union to the battlefields of France, has been relieved because of physical inability to stand field duty and will return to the United States to be retired next July. His successor has not been announced.



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What a Man Wants for Christmas

(Printed in the Desire to Serve Woman)

When a man wants to be "dead sure" of the right thing for a woman's Christmas gift, he goes to a woman's store; there he sees what women buy for themselves, and gets the expert advice of other women.

The rule works both ways, and the resourceful woman seeks out a man's store and the advice of other men.

This is a store for men; it sells the things a man enjoys owning; the things he gets for himself. And it's a place for both men and women to buy gifts for men.

Our stock is generous and varied:

Hart Schaffner & Marx suits and overcoats, of course; shirts, hats, a new array of ties, cuff links, and scarf pins; leather wallets, belt buckles, fountain pens, sport goods, and camp utilities.

There are many others, some that you will think of at once, others you'll appreciate having called to your attention. That is where we can be of service to you; we can share the advantage of our acquaintance with men. We'll be glad to do it.

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POPULAR SINGER

ARRESTED AS SPY

Elena Theodorini Was Greatly Beloved in Argentina, Where She Had Made Application for Naturalization.

Buenos Aires, Dec. 22.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press).—Few women ever have been so popular and so beloved by the Argentine public as Elena Theodorini, an opera singer famous in this country, who was arrested by officers of a French cruiser on a charge that she was a spy in the employ of Count Luxburg, the former German minister here. Count Luxburg received his passport from the Argentine government for sending to Germany a suggestion that Argentine ships be sunk without trace.

La Theodorini, as she has always been called in Argentina, took passage on board a steamer for Europe in company with a group of theatrical persons who were known to be friends of Count Luxburg. The steamer was halted off Montevideo by British cruisers and some of the others of the theatrical group were placed under arrest, but Theodorini was not molested until the steamer was overhauled by a French cruiser off the Spanish coast.

News that the cruiser had taken her from the passenger steamer on charges of espionage came as a surprise to Theodorini's admirers in this city, for the general public did not know, as did diplomatic circles, that she had been in recent years a great friend of Count Luxburg and a member of a circle of theatrical women who were dined and wine-d at the residence of the German diplomat.

La Theodorini came to Buenos Aires in 1884. Singing leading parts in well known operas she soon achieved a wide reputation and afterward became so attached to Argentine audiences that she made her home in this city. Since then she has figured in the musical and theatrical life of Argentina, although she had retired from the operatic stage.

One of her acts which endeared her to

the Argentine public was her application for naturalization inasmuch as she was the first woman of a foreign country to take such a step. Last year she paid a visit to New York, where a festival was given in her honor by the metropolitan opera stars. She returned to Buenos Aires in February, last.

NO LIMIT ON THRIFT STAMPS.

Rule Forbidding More Than \$1,000 at a Time Will Be Waived.

Washington, Dec. 22.—To facilitate the use of war savings stamps and certificates as Christmas gifts, first Assistant Postmaster-General Koons has telegraphed postmasters in the leading cities to sell an unlimited amount of stamps to individuals, firms or corporations wishing to give them as Christmas presents. Temporarily the rule forbidding persons to have more than \$1,000 worth of stamps at a time will be waived.

Reports to the treasury yesterday told of an organized movement in many communities to induce persons who cash their first Liberty bond interest coupons to convert the proceeds immediately into war savings stamps.

PERSHING'S MEN CONFINED TO LIGHT WINE AND BEER

Nothing Stronger Permitted by the General, Who Has Issued Strict Orders.

With the American Army in France, Dec. 22.—All alcoholic beverages, except light wines and beers, are denied to members of the American expeditionary forces in France by General Pershing in general orders issued yesterday. Extraordinary measures are being taken to insure sobriety and a high moral standard in the army, and the officers have been informed they will be held to strict accountability for the fullest compliance with the orders.

ALL STATES SHARE.

In Federal Road Aid Under Federal Aid Road Act.

All the states of the union have availed themselves of the opportunity of participating in the benefits of the federal aid road act, which appropriated 75 million dollars for the construction of post roads and 10 million dollars for forest roads, according to the report of the director of the office of public roads and rural engineering, United States department of agriculture. That the passage of the act has stimulated road building is shown by the fact that in 1916, there were approximately 41 million dollars of state funds expended for all highway purposes, and it is estimated that in the calendar year 1917, the aggregate expenditures of state funds for this purpose will be at least 60 millions. A number of the states have made specific

appropriations to meet federal aid dollar for dollar. Among these are New York, Illinois, Michigan, Rhode Island, Nevada, Iowa, Florida, and Vermont.

TRY TO BLOCK RED CROSS.

German Efforts in New York May Result in Call on Dept. of Justice for Help.

New York, Dec. 22.—Managers of the American Red Cross membership campaign announce that the federal department of justice has been asked to investigate reports of pro-German efforts to interfere with the drive to obtain 500,000 members in this city. Impersonation of Red Cross officials seems to be the favorite method, according to Frank Presbury, publicity director of the campaign.

Several times during the week these men have called on the telephone the headquarters of the four-minute men, which has been providing speakers for the campaign, and, posing as Red Cross officials, have said the help of the four-minute men was not needed, as other arrangements had been made.

"Educating Russia."

The Bolsheviks are receiving their education. They are negotiating with the Germans. The Russian proposal to Germany is for a six months' armistice in which all countries shall share; that no troops be moved about in the meantime, and that the Germans evacuate Moon Island. This plan does not exactly suit the Germans. They prefer only four weeks' armistice and the privilege of moving

less than a division at a time. As for Moon Island, they will not get out, but they desire the Russians to leave Persia and to remove their troops from the French and Macedonian fronts.

The Germans will not surrender so much as an island, and wish to have the terms so that they can move nine-tenths of a division. Americans can see plainly enough that the Bolsheviks are about to learn what we learned in our period of note writing—the impossibility of reasoning with Prussianism.

Trotsky has sent a challenge to the allies. He asks them to "declare clearly and definitely before all mankind the aims for which the peoples of Europe may be called upon to shed their blood during the fourth year of the war."

In the Russian situation is the allied opportunity. The United States has, through Mr. Wilson, adopted the Russian platform for peace. We desire no

annexations, no indemnities. The time has come for our co-belligerents to take their stand on that platform with our government.

To do so would accomplish far more than mere satisfaction to the Bolsheviks, whose tenure of power is conditional on the strength of the imperialists and Bourgeoisie under Korniloff and Kaledine. Ever since the revolution revised peace terms have been a necessity if Russia is to be kept in the war on the right side. As the president plainly intimated, the failure of our allies to say exactly what they are fighting for caused the fall of Kerensky.

The one great drive possible against Prussianism this winter is a peace drive properly conducted it will draw Russia closer and create unrest in Germany. When France and England make the American position their own this peace drive will be begun.—Boston Globe.

Ford
THE UNIVERSAL CAR

The Prices on Chassis, Touring Cars and Runabouts Have Not Advanced—But How Long Present Prices Will Continue We Cannot Say

Buy your car NOW—IMMEDIATELY—even if you do not intend to use the car until spring, and insure yourself against tedious and perhaps expensive waiting at a time when you will want the car and cannot get it. If you intend purchasing a FORD CAR within the next twelve months, place your order and take delivery as soon as possible—

"A Ford in Use Is Worth Two on Order"

Chassis	\$325	Coupelet	\$560
Runabout	345	Town Car	645
Touring Car	360	Sedan	695

One-Ton Worm Drive Truck Chassis .. \$600

These prices f. o. b. Detroit

Perry Automobile Co.

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Try Sloan's Liniment and see how quickly the swelling is reduced and the pain disappears. No need to rub; it penetrates quickly and brings relief. Have a bottle handy for rheumatic pains, neuralgia, back ache and all muscle soreness.
Generous sized bottles, at your druggist, 25c., 50c., \$1.00.

Sloan's
The World's
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Save Your Cash and Your Health
HILL'S CASCARA QUININE
The standard cold cure for 20 years—comes in 24 hour—grip in 3 days. Money back if it fails. Get the genuine box with Red top and Mr. Hill's picture on it. Costs less, gives more, saves money. 24 Tablets for 25c. At Any Drug Store